

inct corporation and power in the State, with an imposing name, and considerable authority.

There were to be six directors, to be styled "the Board of Public Institution," three were to reside east of Raleigh, and three west ; and the Governor was to be *ex-officio* the President of the Board. They were authorized to employ a Secretary, and were to be empowered, subject to limitations by law, to locate the academies directed to be established as part of the Common School system, to determine the number and title of the professors, to examine and appoint the professors, and regulate their compensation, and that of teachers ; to appoint, in the first instance, the trustees of the several academies ; to prescribe the course of studies in the academies and primary schools ; to provide some just and practicable mode of advancing from the primary schools to the academies, and from the academies to the university, as many of the meritorious children educated at the expense of the State, as could be thus educated by the public funds, after first carrying out the whole system of schools as recommended. They were to have power to enact and alter rules and by-laws, and to recommend to the General Assembly, from time to time, laws in relation to education, &c., &c.

They were also annually (sessions of Assembly were then annual) to submit to the General Assembly at or near the commencement of the session, a view of the State of public education within the State, embracing a history of the progress or declension of the University in the year next preceding, and illustrating its natural condition and future prospects, and also setting forth the condition of the fund committed to their trust for public instruction. They had other powers and duties—and as it will be seen, were to manage the *funds* as well as to act as the head of the school system.

In the year 1825, as before related, the State took the first step towards establishing Common Schools, by making provision for the raising of a fund for that purpose ; and in the year 1836, Judge Murphy's plan, so far as relates merely to